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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 7 December 2017

[*on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/72/469)*]

72/124. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[1]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[2] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[3] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 89 of its report;[1]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which cannot be subject to any restrictions arising from the bilateral relations of the host country, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions, and urges the

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/72/26).
[2] Resolution 22 A (I).
[3] See resolution 169 (II).

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host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Recalls* the privileges and immunities applicable to the premises of the permanent missions to the United Nations enjoyed under international law, in particular the instruments listed in paragraph 89 (a) of the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, and the obligations of the host country to observe such privileges and immunities, takes note of the alleged violations thereof by the host country and of the concerns expressed thereon and urges the host country to address such alleged violations and to remove any restrictions inconsistent with those privileges and immunities applied to the premises of a Permanent Mission, and in that regard ensure respect for such privileges and immunities, and remains seized of these matters and anticipates that these issues shall be duly addressed in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Notes* the problems experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[4] and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

5. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the long-standing positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Recalls* article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[3] and notes the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States;

7. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement and in a timely manner, to enable travel to New York on United Nations business and that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

8. Also notes that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States since the time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings, and invites the host country to inform the Committee, as appropriate, of efforts to address such difficulties;

9. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, and welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those permanent missions;

10. *Stresses* the need for the permanent missions and the United Nations to benefit from appropriate banking services, and anticipates that the host country will

[4] A/AC.154/355, annex.

continue to assist the permanent missions accredited to the United Nations and their staff in obtaining such services;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and expects that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

12. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country, and recalls that the Secretary-General may bring to the attention of the Committee issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;[2]

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) and, in this framework, to continue to consider additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

67th plenary meeting
7 December 2017